

## Poetry Explication

1. **Annotate your poem 20 points:** Print out a copy of your poem and write your annotated notes on the poem. You should model the level of poetry explication from class. Your poem choice must have adequate length to produce the essay requirement. If not, you must choose another poem or two poems worthy of sufficient analysis.

### 2. Write a Poetry Explication Essay 100 points

**Essay Assignment:** Write an essay-length analysis (poetry explication) of a poem from the list provided. The poem cannot be one discussed in class and must be approved by me.

**Length:** Approximately 1000 words

**Sources:** You will quote the primary source (your poem) and two secondary sources (critical commentary written about your poem by experts in the field) as evidence to support your claim (thesis). For example, what is the poem about? Why? How do you know? You will break down the poem for full examination.

**MLA:** Use MLA format—typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font, etc.

**In-text Citations:** Use parenthetical documentation for all sources used. Any claim you make, you must use a cited source.

**Works Cited:** Your last page will be a works cited page written in correct MLA format, minimum 2 sources.

**Turnitin:** You must submit your final draft to Turnitin by Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00. NO EXCEPTIONS or NO GRADE.

We will model these steps in class. You will have four days for computer use in the media center.

Your annotations and the essay are assessing your skills based on the common core.

1. The Chambered Nautilus by Oliver Wendell Holmes
2. I Heard a Fly buzz When I Died (Dickinson)
3. Because I could not stop for death (Dickinson)
4. When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer (Whitman)
5. Choice: Other Whitman or Dickinson poetry
6. Choice: Other poetry from 1830-1860